

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12

NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4086

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: 32D GA--PROPOSAL FOR HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: STATE 129286

1. MISSION OFFICERS HAVE DISCUSSED THE PROPOSAL FOR HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (HCHR) WITH THE COSTA RICAN PERMREP. COSTA RICANS WELCOME OUR SUPPORT AND OUR INDICATIONS THAT WE HOPE TO MAKE THIS A PRIORITY EFFORT.

2. COSTA RICANS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DRAWING UP A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL AND HAVE PROMISED TO PROVIDE US WITH A COPY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AS A FIRST STEP, WE WILL NEED TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE PROPOSED ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE HC. THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL WAS FORMULATED PRIOR TO ESTABLISHMENT OF THE 1503 PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PROVIDED THAT THE HDC SHOULD ESSENTIALLY BE CONCERNED WITH TAKING ACTION ON THESE COMMUNICATIONS.

3. AS THE COSTA RICAN REP HERE IS, IN OUR VIEW, THE MOST

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KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THE SUBJECT, WE SEE NO NEED FOR THE US TO SEND A REP TO SAN JOSE TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL. WE WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE COMPOSITION OF A CORE GROUP ONCE THE COSTA RICAN PROPOSAL REACHES FINAL FORM.

4. MISSION IS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE SUGGESTION THAT WE SEEK TO ASSOCIATE ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH THE POST OF

HC AT THIS TIME, AS USUN HAS PREVIOUSLY INDICATED IN CONVERSATIONS WITH IO.WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE POTENTIALLY DAMAGING TO THE REPUTATION OF SUCH PERSONS TO BE VIEWED AS A FRONT MAN FOR A WESTERN INITIATIVE. EARLY NAMING OF AN INDIVIDUAL FOR THE POST COULD LEAD TO A PERSONALITY CONFLICT WHICH WOULD NOT BE CENTRAL TO THE ISSUE.

5. IN PURSUING THE PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A HCHR, WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT THIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING UN HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY AND WE SHOULD MAINTAIN THE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO WHETHER WE WILL ULTIMATELY GIVE PRIORITY TO THIS OR TO SOME OTHER PROPOSAL SUCH AS ONE RELATING TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS OR ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS IN AREAS WHERE NONE ARE PRESENTLY FUNCTIONING. IN ADDITION, THIS PROPOSAL HAS TO BE VIEWED IN THE OVERALL CONTEXT OF OTHER US GOALS AND INITIATIVES. THE MISSION VIEWS OUR EFFORTS ON THE ZIONISM/RACISM ISSUE AS A PRIMARY GOAL AND BELIEVES THAT SINCE NEGOTIATIONS ON ALL THESE ISSUES ARE INTERTWINED, THE NEGOTIATIONS AND INITIATIVES MUST BE CLOSELY COORDINATED.
MCHENRY

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Message Attributes

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